

~~FRANK T. SHAW HOUSE~~

BILLINGSLEA HOUSE

187-189 EAST MAIN STREET

Although built independently and at slightly different times, the two buildings, 187-189, today present a fairly unified appearance, at least on their grey south facades which are united by window placement, cornice treatment, and, perhaps most effectively, by a bow front connector. The two main buildings were built just before the Civil War and remained twin L-shaped masses, open to the northeast, for another half century. It is in this form that the buildings appear in an 1877 plat of the City. Number 187 was for many years the residence of Dr. Frank T. Shaw and no. 189 was, for an equally long time, the residence and office of Dr. James H. Billingslea - so the buildings were at one time unified in use. Around 1910, one Charles Dinst built the bow connector to house a restaurant, and thus created the physical unity the buildings still have today. Dinst had as a motto for his restaurant, "If your wife can't cook, don't divorce her, keep her as a pet and eat at the American Restaurant."

2005

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

Billingslea House

AND/OR COMMON

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

189 East Main Street (MD 32)

6

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Carroll

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

\_\_\_DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

\_\_\_STRUCTURE

\_\_\_SITE

\_\_\_OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

\_\_\_PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

\_\_\_BOTH

#### PUBLIC ACQUISITION

\_\_\_IN PROCESS

\_\_\_BEING CONSIDERED

#### STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

\_\_\_UNOCCUPIED

\_\_\_WORK IN PROGRESS

#### ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED

\_\_\_NO

#### PRESENT USE

\_\_\_AGRICULTURE

☒ COMMERCIAL

\_\_\_EDUCATIONAL

\_\_\_ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_\_GOVERNMENT

\_\_\_INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_MILITARY

\_\_\_MUSEUM

\_\_\_PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_\_RELIGIOUS

\_\_\_SCIENTIFIC

\_\_\_TRANSPORTATION

\_\_\_OTHER

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Charles D. Hollman

Telephone #: 848-3133

STREET & NUMBER

189 East Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21157

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Office Building

Liber #: 608

Folio #: 7770

STREET & NUMBER

Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

\_\_\_FEDERAL \_\_\_STATE \_\_\_COUNTY \_\_\_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Number 189 East Main Street, to the east of the bow front structure that connects with no. 187 East Main, is a deep three-story, three bay building with several additions. Its south (Main Street) facade has, loosely, the same solid-void relationship found at no. 187 - the only differences result from differences in window size. The building is entered at the western ground floor bay, a large pair of 18-light double doors flanked by plain pilasters and topped first by an eight-light transom and finally by a full wooden cornice. The doors are reached by three gracefully carved sandstone steps which have two delicate rosettes carved into their fronts. The two other ground floor bays are elongated double-hung sash windows with 6/6 panes. Second story bays are three square windows which are treated identically with those below, i.e., they have white wooden sills and are topped by a two-part (white wooden) denticulated entablature. The three third-story windows are archless and have 6/6 panes above their white wooden sills.

To the east is a recessed rectangular shed roofed two-story, two-bay wing that continues the main cornice. The 6/6 second story windows are simply enframed but have (too small to be used) iron balconies. There is one 6/6 window that is treated identically with those of the second floor; it has a three course gauged flat arch and a white wooden sill. There is, as the western ground floor bay, a six panel architrave-trimmed door. The east wall of this section is blind. The north facade has two 6/6 identically treated second-story windows (except for the addition of green louvered shutters). There is evidence of infill in the center of the ground floor.

The remaining facades of the main section are a good deal less simple. The building extends far to the north below an eastward sloping shed roof (the Main Street corniced "flatroof" is only stage). The north wall is laid in five course common bond with a central, third-story 6/6 window with a white wooden sill and lintel. The east wall is three tall stories in height, and five bays long. Its third floor has five three-light casement windows below the three-step corbelled-eaved roof. The second floor has a central six-panel three-light door with a filled-in window to the north and a 6/6 simply enframed window to the north of that. The ground floor has two windows identical to and aligned with those on the second floor (i.e., one is filled in, one is 6/6). A three-flight iron fire escape winds its way up to the third story, after pausing on the second floor to provide access to the door. The rest of the east facade has been recently covered by a clapboard shed-roofed extension, to make the building more adaptable to the needs of a modern doctor's office.

The west facade, above the complexities that join it to the bowed section (see 187 East Main) has two large flat-capped chimneys for a skyline, with two four-light windows between.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

photo - see #187 E. Main

CARR-361

## PERIOD

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

## SPECIFIC DATES

c.1855

## BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Jacob Reese

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

See 187 East Main Street

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Being the westerly section of lot 46 of the town of New London,  
located on the north side of East Main Street, about 120' east of its  
intersection with Center Street in Westminster.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant

November, 1976

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

c/o City Hall - Public Works Department

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Westminster

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created  
by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the  
Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA,  
1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information  
and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringe-  
ment of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



CARK 364

184 E. MAIN ST.

WESTMINSTER

N. Jacobs

2/77 Wch.